

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A method of reinforcing or reinstating an existing structure, comprising the steps of:
  - attaching a reinforcing metal layer to said metal panel in spaced apart relation to thereby form at least one cavity between surfaces of said metal panel and said reinforcing metal layer;
  - injecting an intermediate layer comprised of an uncured plastics or polymer material into said at least one cavity; and
  - curing said plastics or polymer material so that it adheres to said surfaces of said metal panel and said reinforcing metal layer so as to transfer shear forces therebetween;

wherein

    said existing metal structure comprises a generally tubular part and said reinforcing metal layer is attached inside tubular part.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said existing structure is an off-shore structure.
3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein said tubular part is a submerged or partly submerged part.
4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~ wherein said tubular part is a support leg or bracing member of an off-shore structure.
5. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said reinforcing metal layer comprises a series of plates or shaped parts that are welded together *in situ*.
6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 5 wherein said reinforcing metal layer comprises complete rings.

7. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said reinforcing metal layer also covers end walls of the tubular parts as well as side walls.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said reinforcing metal layer is made of steel, stainless steel or aluminium.

9. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said reinforcing metal layer has a thickness in the range of 3 to 50 mm.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said plastics or polymer material comprises a compact elastomer.

11. (New) A method according to claim 2, wherein said tubular part is a submerged or partly submerged part.

12. (New) A method according to claim 3, wherein said tubular part is a support leg or bracing member of an off-shore structure.